



St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School

7710 East State Boulevard
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46815
749-5816

August 24, 2025 – 8:00am & 10:30am

Rev. Adam McDowell, Associate Pastor
Rev. Nathan Widener, Associate Pastor & Director of Community of Care
Rev. James Sharp, Missionary to Puerto Rico
Tim Degen, Director of Music & Organist
Chris Brune, Principal
Barb Christian, Preschool Director

THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 24, 2025 – 8:00am & 10:30am

PRELUDE

“Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good”

arr. Keith Kolander

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good” #819

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

P If You, Lord, kept a record of our sin, who could stand before You?
C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore, You are worshiped.

(Silence for reflection)

P Faithful Lord,
C We confess that we are sinful from conception. We have sinned in the ways we have thought, spoken, and acted. We have not loved You with all our passion and prayer and intelligence and energy, nor have we loved others as we love ourselves. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

P Rejoice, for your names are written in heaven, because Jesus, the Mediator of the new covenant, has shed His blood that you might have forgiveness of sins. God has declared you not guilty through Jesus Christ. In His name and at His command I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Thanks be to God! Amen.

PSALMODY

Psalm 50:1-15

P The Mighty One, God the LORD,
speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

C **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth.**

P Our God comes; he does not keep silence;
before him is a devouring fire, around him a mighty tempest.

C **He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:**

P “Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”

C **The heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge!**

P “Hear, O my people, and I will speak;
O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God.

C **Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;
your burnt offerings are continually before me.**

P I will not accept a bull from your house
or goats from your folds.

C **For every beast of the forest is mine,
the cattle on a thousand hills.**

P I know all the birds of the hills,
and all that moves in the field is mine.

C **“If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the world and its fullness are mine.**

P Do I eat the flesh of bulls
or drink the blood of goats?
C Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and perform your vows to the Most High,

P and call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

(Tune: "In Thee is Gladness")

Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Be to You, O God Most High.
Peace from the Father, Peace to His people,
All who on His grace rely.
Lord God Almighty, we give You worship,
We praise and thank You, for all Your glory,
King everlasting, Alleluia!
We bless Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior,
Son of the Father, Lamb who is worthy
Of praise forever, Alleluia!

To this world's darkness, You bring Your brightness,
All our sins You take away.
You who are seated, throned with the Father,
Hear our prayer, O Lord, we pray.
For You are holy, only are holy,
Our Lord and Master, highest and greatest,
Ever and only: Jesus our Lord;
Who with the Father, and with the Spirit,
One God almighty, Rules in all glory,
Now and forever, Alleluia!

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Let us pray together:
C O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 66:18-23

¹⁸“For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, ¹⁹and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. ²⁰And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. ²¹And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD. ²²“For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain. ²³From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 12:4-24

⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. ⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” ⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not

discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. ¹²Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears. ¹⁸For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL READING

Luke 13:22-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. ²³And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, ²⁴“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and

you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ ²⁶Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ ²⁷But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’ ²⁸In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. ²⁹And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. ³⁰And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES’ CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

#915

SERMON

“The Narrow Door”

Texts: Psalm 50:1-15 & Luke 13:22-30 – Pastor Nathan Widener

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP and GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS

VOLUNTARY

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

arr. Jacobus Kloppers

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P O God, receive our bodies and souls and all our talents, together with these offerings we bring You, for by His blood Your Son has purchased us to be Your own that we may live under Him in His kingdom. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, grant us repentant faith to strive to enter ever more deeply into Your blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. By the witness of Your saints, gather many from the very corners of this world to enter Your kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P O Lord, prosper Your Church, the preaching of the Word, and the work of all pastors and church workers. Guide and strengthen the catechumens and all who teach and learn Your Word. Be with Pastor Dan Eggold, as he prepares to begin his service as our Senior Pastor. We thank You for guiding us through the call process. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Eternal King, the kingdoms and nations of this world rise and fall while Your Church remains before You. Give Your Church a holy confidence in Your eternal life so she fears no worldly threat and ministers to the nations boldly and faithfully. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, bless all those who care for the sick and attend to the dying; all those who care for our children; and our police, firefighters, emergency personnel and disaster-relief workers. Increase our generous support of those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Lord, be with the sick and those who suffer, those troubled in mind or heart, the grieving in their sorrow, and the dying in their last days on earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Lord God, You have drawn to Yourself believers from all nations and sanctified them in Holy Baptism as priests and Levites in Your Church. Fortify their faith and embolden their witness, that many may be gathered into the new heavens and new earth; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN **“You Are the Way; Through You Alone”** **#526**

POSTLUDE

“You Are the Way; through You Alone” arr. C.S. Lang